

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES  
MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2005**

At 5:13 p.m. Chairman Lee Panza called the meeting to order in the Fourth Floor Dining Room at the San Mateo Transit District Office.

Members Attending: Chairman Lee Panza, Deborah Gordon, Marc Hershman, Sue Lempert, Irene O'Connell, and Jim Vreeland.

Staff/ Guests Attending: Ross Nakasone (County Manager's Office), David Burruto (Speaker Pro Tem Leland Yee's Office), Richard Napier (C/CAG Executive Director), Brian Moura (City of San Carlos), Walter Martone and Sandy Wong (C/CAG Staff), Jessica Stanfill (Assemblyman Mullin's Office), Brooke Joseph (Senator Speier's Office), and Ed Stewart (SamTrans).

**1. Public comment on items not on the agenda.**

None.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2004.**

*Motion: To approve the minutes of March 10, 2005 as presented.  
Lempert/Vreeland, unanimous.*

**3. Update from C/CAG's Lobbyist in Sacramento (via conference call).**

Wes Lujan reported:

Deadline for fiscal bills to be heard in policy committees is April 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Governor has backed off of his push for pension reform; however there still may be a deal made in the legislature.

Redistricting continues to be one of the Governor's main priorities.

Two bills have been introduced to provide financing for the Bay Bridge. Senator Torlakson's bill (SB 172) will increase tolls by an additional dollar; and Senator Perata's bill (SB 1024) will sell additional bonds. The Governor continues to be opposed to new bond measures this year, but may be more open to it in the future. The bond bill also includes funding for many other transportation projects in order to garner additional support.

The Governor's redistricting proposal may include some reform of term limits in order to make it more attractive to incumbents.

The Assembly Speaker's bond package is still being analyzed for its long-term implications. It appears that everyone is going in different directions on developing funding packages to address the State's fiscal crisis.

There is also a north-south issue developing over the financing for the Bay Bridge. One Southern California legislator has introduced a bill to mandate that the full cost of the Bay Bridge be paid for by MTC.

ACA 13 – a bill to exempt stormwater pollution and flood prevention programs from the supermajority voting requirements under Proposition 213.

- The Governor is backing ACA 13, which as currently written, exempts flood control programs from Proposition 213. The Governor has agreed to the bill being amended to include stormwater pollution prevention programs.
- The League has prepared amendments to the bill to add the stormwater element; however the wording they offered does not address the needs of the NPDES Program. Therefore C/CAG Staff and Advocacy have been negotiating with the League, CSAC, and the bill's authors (Harman, Mullin, and Jones) for more acceptable language in the amendment. It appears that a resolution to this language issue has been reached.
- It is likely that the bill as amended will then go to Assembly Local Government, Assembly Elections and Reapportionment, and finally the Assembly Floor. We will need 100% Democratic support and at least 6 Republicans in order to get the two-thirds vote needed for passage.
- C/CAG Chair Emeritus Wilder has been talking to lots of Republican legislators in an effort to garner support for this bill.
- The San Mateo County Legislative Delegation will also be asked to coax their Republican counterparts to support the bill.
- It is anticipated that there will be aggressive opposition by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association to this bill.
- It is hoped that CalTax, a business interest group, will be neutral on the bill.
- It is important that this bill be marketed as a non-partisan solution to a statewide problem.

Diversion of Proposition 42 transportation funds –

- These funds are an easy target to help with balancing the State General Fund.
- It is highly unlikely that there will be any protection of these funds for the current and the next fiscal years.
- Unless new revenues are secured, these funds will likely not be protected.
- The May revise will help to determine if there is any flexibility in the budget as a result of unanticipated increases in revenue.
- A group called “Rescue Transportation” is proposing

SB 44 – the staff of the author (Kehoe) of this bill indicated that they are working with the League to create amendments to the bill that address the concerns of local governments. It is recommended that no position be taken on this bill until these amendments are worked out.

SB 521 - Senator Torlakson has a bill to redefine the term “blight” so that redevelopment can be done around transit centers. This bill would bypass the local government land use approval process.

AB 713 (Torrico) – This bill will postpone the vote on the High Speed Rail Bond. C/CAG may want to follow this bill.

#### **4. Consideration of positions on various bills:**

ACA 13: This bill is C/CAG's number one priority. Currently the bill is to exempt flood control projects from the voting requirements of Proposition 213. This bill is anticipated to be amended to also include an exclusion for stormwater pollution prevention programs.

*Motion: To recommend that the C/CAG Board take a "support" position on ACA 13 as amended to include an exclusion from the Proposition 213 voting requirements for stormwater pollution prevention programs. Hershman/Lempert, unanimous.*

AB 1329: This bill would extent the authority to cities to use design-build contracting for public works projects. A survey of all of the Public Works Directors for the cities in San Mateo County was conducted to see if this contracting option would be beneficial. The overwhelming response was affirmative. This option would not be appropriate in all instances; however it would provide another alternative to assist the cities in expediting the delivery of transportation projects.

*Motion: To recommend that the C/CAG Board take a "support" position on AB 1329. O'Connell/Vreeland, unanimous.*

SB 371: This bill would extent the authority to local transportation authorities to use design-build contracting for public works projects. The San Mateo County Transportation Authority has requested that C/CAG support this bill. Again this option would not be appropriate in all instances; however it would provide another alternative to assist the Transportation Authority in expediting the delivery of transportation projects.

*Motion: To recommend that the C/CAG Board take a "support" position on SB 371. Hershman/O'Connell, unanimous.*

AB 1203 (Mullin): This bill would allow tax increment financing options to be used for redeveloped strip malls. Jessica Sanfill, representing Assemblyman Mullin, reported that this bill is still being refined and therefore she recommended that C/CAG hold off taking a position until these refinements are completed.

SB 44 (Kehoe): This bill would require local General Plans to include an air quality element. After consultation with the League and Advocacy, it was agreed that action on this bill would be postponed until the amendments to the bill that are being negotiated between the author and the League are available for review.

#### **5. Review and conceptual approval of Rescue Transportation Proposal.**

A coalition of the Self-Help Transportation Counties is developing a proposal (that may be submitted as a ballot initiative) to provide a firewall for transportation funding. Last fall the C/CAG Board took a position in support of such a firewall. This initiative will

also include recommendations for some institutional changes to how the State of California manages transportation funding.

**6. Establish date and time for next meeting (May 12, 2005).**

The next meeting was set for May 12, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fourth Floor Veranda Room at the San Mateo County Transit District Office.

**7. Other Items/Comments from Guests.**

The May 12<sup>th</sup> Legislative Committee meeting has been moved to the Veranda Room, which is also on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Samtrans Building.

Types of food for the meeting will be rotated.

Only reports on priority one bills are being provided to the Legislative Committee. Copies of the reports on the other 100+ bills being followed by C/CAG staff are available.

C/CAG's bill to increase the Vehicle Registration Fee is being copied by a number of other jurisdictions.

**8. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.